

# ST HILDA'S ASHFORD



## THE EUCHARIST DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON THE SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

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# THE GATHERING

## Introit Hymn

Unto us a boy is born!  
King of all creation,  
Came he to a world forlorn,  
The Lord of every nation,  
The Lord of every nation.

Cradled in a stall was he  
With sleepy cows and asses;  
But the very beasts could see  
That he all men surpasses,  
That he all men surpasses

Herod then with fear was filled:  
'A prince', he said, 'in Jewry!'  
All the little boys he killed  
At Bethlem in his fury,  
At Bethlem in his fury.

Now may Mary's son, who came  
So long ago to love us  
Lead us all with hearts aflame  
Unto the joys above us,  
Unto the joys above us.

Omega and Alpha he!  
Let the organ thunder,  
While the choir with peals of glee  
Doth rend the air asunder,  
Doth rend the air asunder.

*[Percy Dearmer]*

## **The Greeting**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

*All* **Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you

*All* **and also with you.**

*Words of welcome and introduction are said.*

## **Prayer of Preparation – *Sit or kneel***

*All* **Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,  
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hidden:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts  
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you,  
and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Prayers of Penitence**

Hear the words of the angel to Joseph:  
'You shall call his name Jesus,  
for he will save his people from their sins.'  
Therefore let us seek the forgiveness of God  
through Jesus the Saviour of the world.

*All* **Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
we have sinned against you**

**and against our neighbour  
in thought and word and deed,  
through negligence, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for  
us, forgive us all that is past  
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life  
to the glory of your name.  
Amen.**

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon you,  
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,  
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and keep you in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## **Gloria in Excelsis**

*All* **Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

**The Collect** - *The Collect for the Week is said after a moment of silence*

God our Father,  
in love you sent your Son  
that the world may have life:  
lead us to seek him among the outcast  
and to find him in those in need,  
for Jesus Christ's sake.  
**Amen**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

### **Old Testament Reading – Jeremiah 31: 7 - 14**

For thus says the Lord:  
Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,  
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;  
proclaim, give praise, and say,  
“Save, O Lord, your people,  
the remnant of Israel.”  
See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,  
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,  
among them the blind and the lame,  
those with child and those in labor, together;  
a great company, they shall return here.  
With weeping they shall come,  
and with consolations I will lead them back,  
I will let them walk by brooks of water,

in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;  
for I have become a father to Israel,  
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Hear the word of the Lord, O nations,  
and declare it in the coastlands far away;  
say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him,  
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."  
For the Lord has ransomed Jacob,  
and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.  
They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,  
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord,  
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,  
and over the young of the flock and the herd;  
their life shall become like a watered garden,  
and they shall never languish again.  
Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,  
and the young men and the old shall be merry.  
I will turn their mourning into joy,  
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.  
I will give the priests their fill of fatness,  
and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,  
says the Lord.

*At the end the reader says*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

### **New Testament Reading – Ephesians 1: 3 – 14**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in

love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

*At the end the reader says*

This is the word of the Lord.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Reading – John 1: 1 – 18**

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,  
and we have seen his glory

*All* **Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *John*.

*All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All*    **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**The Sermon** – *All sit*

**The Creed** – *All stand*

*All* We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

## **Prayers of Intercession** – *We sit or kneel*

Let us pray to our incarnate Lord,  
who has brought us out of darkness  
and into his own marvellous light.

Merciful Father  
*All* **accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

## **THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT**

### **The Peace** – *All stand*

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,  
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
*All* **and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

### **Offertory Hymn**

The first Nowell the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep:  
*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
Born is the King of Israel.*

They lookèd up and saw a star,  
Shining in the east, beyond them far;  
And to the earth it gave great light,

And so it continued both day and night:

*Refrain*

Then let us all with one accord

Sing praises to our heavenly Lord;

That hath made heaven and earth of naught,

And with his blood mankind hath bought:

*Refrain*

## **Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord be with you  
*All* **and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
*All* **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*All* **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,  
mighty creator, ever-living God.

We give you thanks and praise for your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ,

who for love of our fallen race humbled himself,  
was born of the Virgin Mary by the power of your Spirit,  
and lived as one of us.

In this mystery of the Word made flesh  
you have caused his light to shine in our hearts,  
to give knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.  
In him we see our God made visible  
and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.  
Therefore with all the angels of heaven  
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name  
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
and as we obey his command,  
send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine outpoured  
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.  
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:  
*Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.*

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.  
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:  
*Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.*

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,  
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice  
made once for all upon the cross.  
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,  
we proclaim his death and resurrection  
until he comes in glory.

*All* **Christ has died:  
Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life,  
help us to work together for that day  
when your kingdom comes  
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.  
Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with Mary, Joseph and all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.  
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, let us pray  
with confidence as our Saviour taught us:

*All* **Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,**

**for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.

*All* **God here among us,  
light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**

## **Agnus Dei**

*All* **Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

## **Giving of Communion**

*The president says the invitation to communion*

Christ is the true bread which has come down from heaven.

*All* **Lord, give us this bread always.**

*The people and president receive communion.*

## Communion Hymns

*This is the truth sent from above*

(© Stainer & Bell Ltd)

What Child is this, who, laid to rest  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds worship and angels sing:  
Haste, haste, to bring him praise,  
The Babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate,  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Come, have no, fear, God's son is here,  
His love all loves exceeding:  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,  
The cross be borne for me, for you:  
Hail, hail the Saviour comes,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh,  
All tongues and peoples own him,;  
The King of kings salvation brings,  
Let every heart enthrone him:  
Raise, raise your song on high,  
While Mary sings a lullaby.  
Joy, joy for Christ is born,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.

(W. Chatterton Dix)

## **Prayer after Communion**

All praise to you,  
almighty God and heavenly king,  
who sent your Son into the world  
to take our nature upon him  
and to be born of a pure virgin:  
grant that, as we are born again in him,  
so he may continually dwell in us  
and reign on earth as he reigns in heaven,  
now and for ever.

**Amen**

*All* **Almighty God,**  
**we thank you for feeding us**  
**with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.**  
**Through him we offer you our souls and bodies**  
**to be a living sacrifice.**  
**Send us out in the power of your Spirit**  
**to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

## **THE DISMISSAL**

### **Blessing**

Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one  
things earthly and heavenly,  
fill you with peace and goodwill  
and make you partakers of the divine nature;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
*All* **In the name of Christ. Amen**

*The ministers and people depart.*

## **Recessional Hymn**

**Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled:  
Joyful all ye nations rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies,  
With th'angelic hosts proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem:  
*Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King.***

**Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come  
Offspring of the Virgin's womb!  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
Hail th'incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with men to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel:  
*Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King.***

**Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Risen with healing in his wings;  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,**

**Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth:  
*Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King.***

*[Charles Wesley]*

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## SERVICE TIMES

Wednesday 5th January 11am

Epiphany - Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 7.30pm

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January 9.30am

The Sunday service is livestreamed and can be viewed later our Facebook page

### Please remember in your prayers this week:

#### THE SICK:

James Bedford	Pat Kyle	Carla Wells
Robb Clarke	Pauline Lewis	Sheila West
Ann Considine	Chris Maddock	Philip Willerton
Julia Cowley	Mrs McCammon	Chick Wilson
Michael Dixon	Libby Mills	Peter Wilson
Anna Elwell	Raymond Nation	Jo Wood
Jack Everett	Pat Parish	Erin
Peter Garner	Peggy Pinfold	Izzy
Eileen Gilbert	Elizabeth Savill-Burgess	Nic
Juilet Griffith	Delphine Scrivener	Baby Reuben
Alison Griffiths	Riley Shaw	Bob
Vicky Hall	Elsie Stone	Margaret
Jean Iddiols	Roy Stone	
Jane Johnson	Rev. Peter Taylor	

#### THE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Vera Anderson	Deirdre Puttock	Bridget Kerridge
Baby Eleanor	Rosie Newell	Gordon Victor Morrison (Jim)
Geoffrey Escott	Enid Friesen	

#### THOSE IN OUR MEMORIAL BOOK THIS WEEK

Joan Mary Holliday	Stanley Hardy	Vera Davies
Frances Mary Blood	Helga Minna Helene Morris	Rhoda Allport
Dennis Charles Gadd	Sidney Cash	Terence Reynolds
Maureen Anne Clark		

## NOTICES

The Parish Office is available by phone weekdays 9am – 5pm

### Church Opening

St Hilda's is open for public worship services. ***We are operating the ticket booking system to keep everyone safe at this time. Please contact the office if you are unable to book online.***

Day of Service	Booking Opens	Booking Closes	Livestream
Sunday (9.30am)	Monday 9am	Friday 5pm	Yes
Wednesday (11am)	Thursday 9am	Tuesday midday	No

**Please remember masks are now mandatory in Church and if you feel unwell we ask that you do not attend. If you feel unwell within 3 days of coming to St Hilda's please contact us so that we can maintain the health and safety of all who attended the same service.**

### Community Lunch

The Community Lunch is now on a break until 12<sup>th</sup> January. If you are able to come forward and help, even once a month, please do liaise with Bobbie.

### Bible Study – 5<sup>th</sup> January

The Bible study group will meet in Church at 7.30pm.

### Time to Worship Together – 7<sup>th</sup> January

A Time to Worship Together service to wonder about 'Jesus a refugee' and where we hide in troubled times.

Friday 7th Jan 2022  
5.30pm  
St Hilda's Church  
Ashford

Book your table via QR code.



## **Parish Exchange with St Michael & All Angels - Stoke Newington**

*For those who are going on the pilgrimage to the Holy Land*

**8<sup>th</sup> January at 2pm**- Service followed by a meal at St Michael & All Angels. **Due to the ongoing situation with the Omicron variant, this has been postponed until further notice.**

19<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm – service followed by a meal at St Hilda's

## **Feed my sheep – Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2.30 – 4pm**

We are back, unless regulations change before our first meeting. The theme is PICK AND MIX.

Turn up, sign in, put a £1 in the pot. Join in and also enjoy cake and tea.

Future dates and topics:

Feb 22nd Whose Bible is it?

Mar 22nd Dead Sea Scrolls and Qumran

April 26th Prayer and Praying

May 24th Popes

## **Junior church**

Junior church would like you to save any Bisto or Pringle type cardboard tubes and their plastic lids [or any other brands]. A box has been placed at the back of church. This is a time limited appeal we need them for January 16th.

Thank you

*Christine*

## **Ambling through Acts course**

**(7:30pm on the first Thursday of each month, beginning on 3<sup>rd</sup> February)**

Just as ambling through the countryside gives you time to stop and stare and notice things that you might otherwise miss, so this unhurried but detailed study of the Acts of the Apostles will entail a close reading of the text. We will see the unfolding story of the beginnings of the church through the eyes of the writer, try to discern his purposes, discover new things, and learn that though the context has changed, human nature remains much the same. Hence, the struggles of those first followers may find resonances in our own day as we live out our individual lives of discipleship and participate together in the life of the church.

Everyone is very welcome to attend. There will be refreshments at the end. We will finish by saying Compline (Night Prayer) together round about 9pm. I hope

to see you there. Please bring a bible – ideally the NRSV, but any version will do.

*Fr Steve*

### **St Hilda's Kneelers**

We aren't currently using the kneelers, if anyone has a sentimental attachment to a particular kneeler and would be interested in having it back, please contact the office by January. Otherwise, they will be used for art project, as shown in the picture.



### **Pilgrimage to Westminster Abbey – Date TBC**

A parish pilgrimage is being arranged to Westminster Abbey, please sign up on the sheet at the rear of the Church or contact the office. A date will be arranged if we have enough interest.

### **Hope Into Action**

Homelessness has been a key element of St Hilda's missional engagement and St Hilda has started to support Hope Into Action:

*"We provide not just shelter and housing know-how but also friendship. Together with over 70 churches, we provide direct support to people whom others have often given up on. Our vision is for every church to lovingly provide the homeless with a home. The tragedy of homelessness is in every community"*

There are two blue wheelie bins, one in church and one in the church hall to take donations of clean clothes, belts and paired shoes. They will be sold, and the proceeds donated towards the partnership with Hope Into Action. ***We cannot do anything with bedding, towels, curtains, and other soft furnishings.***

### **Holy Land Pilgrimage – 15<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

An information sheet is available at the rear of the Church which gives further details of the pilgrimage and how to book.

### **St Hilda's News**

The January issue will be available in the next few days.

### **Sponsor a church chair**

If you would like to sponsor a chair or trolley, please complete the form at the rear of the Church.

- £90 covers the cost of a chair
- £225 covers the cost of a stacking trolley

## Contact Information

### Vicar

Fr Joseph Fernandes

[vicar@sthilda.org](mailto:vicar@sthilda.org)

Vicarage 01784 254237

Parish Office 01784 253525

Mobile 07999 053433

### Licenced Lay Ministers

Carolyn Clark [carolyn@sthilda.org](mailto:carolyn@sthilda.org)

Rosalyn Young [rosalyn@sthilda.org](mailto:rosalyn@sthilda.org)

### Churchwardens

Bobbie Bedford

Frances Forsbrey

### PCC Secretary

Denise Buttigieg

### PCC Treasurer

Darran Buttigieg

### Parish Administrator

Denise Buttigieg

### Church Hall Bookings

Chris Davenport

01784 252170

### The Parish Office:

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